



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY  
INCORPORATED  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

cc: H. P. Serenbets - PPD

AR 226 - 1398

November 23, 1982

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

J. W. RAINES  
POLYMER PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT  
M-5625

SCRUBBING OF FINE POWDER DRYER EXHAUSTS  
(Letter J. W. Raines - B. W. Karrh 11/2)

I appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the information attached to your referenced letter (October 27 letter T. M. Kemp to H. V. Bradley - same title).

All of our presently available data indicate there is no chronic health effect due to the low levels of exposure to C-8 that Washington Works employees are experiencing. We do know, however, that the material accumulates in the blood and has a relatively long half-life. Also, our C-8 human exposure experience is quite limited in time.

Based on ESD's evaluation, Kemp states that the annual mean concentration on site of emitted C-8 will be  $0.35 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  or 3.5% of the  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  AEL but excursions to as high as 165% of the AEL can occur. Kemp further states that scrubbing will reduce the general Washington Works employee exposure to C-8 by more than 90% but he reasons that there will be small overall improvement for the general employee because of the low exposure anyway. It is somewhat intriguing that the lowest Washington Works levels are in the Teflon® area itself.

Even though the C-8 exposure to plant employees is small, I recommend that available practical steps be taken to reduce this exposure because:

- Our knowledge of the chronic health effects from long-term exposure to low levels of C-8 is quite limited.
- C-8 is retained in the blood for a long time, creating concern in other areas such as blood donations, etc.

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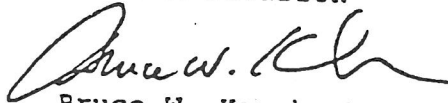
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- All employees, not just Teflon® area workers, are exposed.
- There is obviously great potential for current or future exposure of members of the local community - from emissions leaving the Plant perimeter.

Please let me know if you wish to discuss this further.

MEDICAL DIVISION



Bruce W. Karrh, M.D.  
Director

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